

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-53268

Date: 12-08-2025

Title: Bodies for Labour, Voices for Resistance: A Marxist Feminist Analysis of Oppression and Defiance in *Ogadinma* and *And They Didn't Die*

Recommendation:

Accept as it isYES.....

Accept after minor revision.....

Accept after major revision

Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

| Rating | Excel. | Good | Fair | Poor |
|----------------|--------|------|------|------|
| Originality | | | ✓ | |
| Techn. Quality | | | ✓ | |
| Clarity | | ✓ | | |
| Significance | | | ✓ | |

Reviewer Name: Syed Mohammed

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

Abstract Review:

The abstract presents a well-defined research scope, clearly identifying Marxist feminist theory as the analytical framework. It effectively introduces the two primary texts—*Ogadinma* by Ukamaka Olisakwe and *And They Didn't Die* by Lauretta Ngcobo—while situating them in the broader context of postcolonial African societies. The study's guiding questions are explicit, offering clarity about the direction of the analysis. The abstract successfully integrates both thematic and theoretical concerns, showing how capitalist and patriarchal systems intersect to produce gendered and class-based oppressions. It acknowledges the dual reality wherein men, despite benefiting from patriarchal structures, still face economic hardship. The discussion of resistance as gradual, community-oriented, and often subtle adds a nuanced dimension. The conclusion of the abstract effectively reinforces the theoretical contribution to African literary discourse and the central role of African women writers in theorising issues of gender, labour, and agency. The keywords are concise and thematically relevant.

Introduction Review:

The introduction establishes a strong conceptual foundation by foregrounding class struggle as central to social stratification and agency in postcolonial Africa. It links colonial legacies with both capitalist exploitation and indigenous patriarchal systems, creating a comprehensive sociohistorical framework for the analysis. The emphasis on African women writers as critical voices who interrogate and challenge systemic inequalities situates the research within an ongoing literary and theoretical conversation. The references to Nfah Abbenyi and Stratton provide a scholarly anchor, showing engagement with established feminist and postcolonial criticism. The writing maintains a balance between theoretical framing and contextual grounding, ensuring the study's relevance to both literary and sociopolitical analysis.

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Overall Assessment:

The abstract and introduction are thematically cohesive, theoretically grounded, and methodologically clear. They articulate a strong connection between Marxist feminist theory and African literary criticism, while maintaining a focus on the interplay of class and gender. The study positions itself within a relevant scholarly discourse and presents a promising framework for exploring oppression, labour, and resistance in postcolonial African literature.